



The Four Phases of Emergency Management

Mitigation Preventing future emergencies or minimizing their effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> : Includes any activities that prevent an emergency, reduce the chance of an emergency happening, or reduce the damaging effects of unavoidable emergencies. : Buying flood and fire insurance for your home is a mitigation activity. : Mitigation activities take place before and after emergencies.
Preparedness Preparing to handle an emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> : Includes plans or preparations made to save lives and to help response and rescue operations. : Evacuation plans and stocking food and water are both examples of preparedness. : Preparedness activities take place before an emergency occurs.
Response Responding safely to an emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> : Includes actions taken to save lives and prevent further property damage in an emergency situation. Response is putting your preparedness plans into action. : Seeking shelter from a tornado or turning off gas valves in an earthquake are both response activities. : Response activities take place during an emergency.
Recovery Recovering from an emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> : Includes actions taken to return to a normal or an even safer situation following an emergency. : Recovery includes getting financial assistance to help pay for the repairs. : Recovery activities take place after an emergency.